

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

OFFICE OF CENTRAL REFERENCE

7 January 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] Intelligence

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1. This action memorandum recommends (in paras. 10-13) a reallocation of responsibility for producing and disseminating certain [REDACTED] intelligence.

BACKGROUND

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2. The present major medium for regularly scheduled production and dissemination of comprehensive [REDACTED] intelligence is the National Intelligence Survey (NIS). Since the production of the first collection in January 1950 on Egypt, over [REDACTED] have been produced, covering [REDACTED] in 73 different countries. For about six years these reports covered [REDACTED] only and were published as [REDACTED] of the NIS. After that the coverage was broadened to include [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Production of [REDACTED] was discontinued in 1955. The new publication was titled [REDACTED] and included contributions from five different agencies coordinated by the Department of State. In mid-1961 responsibility for production [REDACTED] was transferred from State [REDACTED] (as part of the transfer of State's entire responsibility for producing [REDACTED] Responsibility for coordinating the production [REDACTED] remained in OBI.

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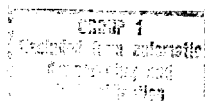
3. For the 13 years since January 1950 the number [REDACTED] produced per year averaged about 460. During the last few years State augmented its production, aiming at 1800 to 2000 [REDACTED] per year. State succeeded in producing 790 in FY 1960 and 765 in FY 1961. The number [REDACTED] in each volume has varied considerably. Ten have 20 or less, whereas the U.S.S.R. and Communist China have 775 and 765 respectively. The arithmetical average number [REDACTED] contained is 74, while the median is 44. [REDACTED] varied in length from 1/2 to 8 manuscript pages.

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4. [redacted] now produces these [redacted] reports, expending an estimated 15% of its production effort in support thereof. The major portion of this effort is devoted to the preparation of the reports themselves, prefaces, glossaries and indexes. In addition, [redacted] also produces [redacted] for Chapter I (Brief) and [redacted] for the various sections in Chapter VII (Scientific). Final decision regarding scheduling, length, and editing remains with OBI after consultation [redacted]. Presently scheduled and forecast coverage of [redacted] includes seven loose-leaf publications to which the Pentagon services contribute. OBI collaborates in the selection of [redacted]. The other publications, scheduled and forecast at the rate of about 16 per year, including revisions to the loose-leaf publications, are produced solely by [redacted].

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DISCUSSION

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5. Since the responsibility for the preparation of [redacted] intelligence [redacted] now rests solely in [redacted] there is less need for the role played by OBI as coordinator of interdepartmental efforts [redacted]. It would thus appear timely to consider what advantages could result from a change making [redacted] the responsible production office.

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6. Three potential advantages are significant: (a) a decrease in the time lapse between the production of [redacted] and its availability as a printed report to an interested recipient (now regularly ranging from 6 to 12 months); (b) a greater facility in updating reports once issued; and (c) greater flexibility in scheduling [redacted] production.

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7. [redacted] can commit itself to a level of production under a revised program at least equivalent to its present support to the MIS program.

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8. In our view, a scheduled [redacted] publication program should be continued. The many government components, especially those overseas, have a continuing need for this type of information. Many cases arise where regularly scheduled production can serve to anticipate field requirements or provide an immediate [redacted] response to such requirements. MIS requirements can be better met by selectively including brief [redacted] in related material as is now done in the [redacted].

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9. The dimensions of a revised [redacted] program should be determined by a study of the requirements to which such a program should be responsive. Thus, we should not at this time prescribe the program's scope and content. (Note: The study effort can moreover be carried out concurrently with [redacted] program to stimulate and guide [redacted] reporting by Foreign Service posts.)

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

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10. That no further [redacted] sections be planned by NIS.

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11. That [redacted] assume responsibility for providing scheduled [redacted] reports to components of the Government previously relying on NIS. However, [redacted] coverage included in [redacted] and such other [redacted] inputs as for the Chapter I (General Surveys), shall continue to be responsive to NIS requirements.

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12. That this proposal be referred to the NIS Committee for concurrence and forwarding for USIB consideration.

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13. That, as a first step following USIB approval, [redacted] conduct a study of requirements for this type of coverage to determine the dimensions of a responsive production program, which program [redacted] shall then implement within its capabilities.

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PAUL A. BOREL
Assistant Director
Central Reference

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Attachment

[redacted] Production (by Date)

CONCURRENCE:


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15/ 1/9/63
[redacted]
Assistant Director for Basic Intelligence

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APPROVAL:

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for 
Ray S. Cline
Deputy Director (Intelligence)

20 Feb 63

INFORMATION:

Executive Secretary, USIB
USIB NIS Committee
USIB Committee on Documentation
Assistant for Coordination/O/DCI